

initial term of office as Deputy Director-General has not already been renewed once by the preceding Congress and that he declares his interest in being considered as a candidate for the post of Director-General.

4 If the posts of Director-General and Deputy Director-General fall vacant at the same time, the Council of Administration shall elect, on the basis of the applications received following notification of the vacancies, a Deputy Director-General for the period extending up to the next Congress. With regard to the submission of applications, paragraph 2 shall apply by analogy.

5 If the post of Deputy Director-General falls vacant, the Council of Administration shall, on the proposal of the Director-General, instruct one of the Assistant Directors-General at the International Bureau to take over the functions of Deputy Director-General until the following Congress.

#### Article 110

##### Duties of the Director-General

1 The Director-General shall organize, administer and direct the International Bureau, of which he is the legal representative. He shall be empowered to classify posts in grades G 1 to D 2 and to appoint and promote officials in those grades. For appointments in grades P 1 to D 2, he shall consider the professional qualifications of the candidates recommended by the postal administrations of the member countries of which the candidates are nationals or in which they exercise their professional activities, taking into account equitable geographical distribution with respect to continents and languages. **The posts of Assistant Director-General shall as far as possible be filled by candidates from different regions and from regions other than those from which the Director-General and Deputy Director-General originate, bearing in mind the paramount consideration of the efficiency of the International Bureau.** In the case of posts requiring special qualifications, the Director-General may seek applications from outside. He shall also consider, for the appointment of a new official, that, in principle, persons occupying grade D 2, D 1 and P 5 posts must be nationals of different member countries of the Union. For the promotion of an official of the International Bureau to grades D 2, D 1 and P 5, he shall not be bound to apply that principle. Moreover, the requirements of equitable geographical and language distribution shall rank behind merit in the recruitment process. The Director-General shall inform the Council of Administration once a **year** of appointments and promotions in grades P 4 to D 2.

2 The Director-General shall have the following duties:

- 2.1 to act as depositary of the Acts of the Union and as intermediary in the procedure of accession and admission to and withdrawal from the Union;
- 2.2 **to notify the decisions taken by Congress to all the Governments of member countries;**
- 2.3 to notify all **postal** administrations of the **Regulations** drawn up or revised by the Postal Operations Council;
- 2.4 to prepare the draft annual budget of the Union at the lowest possible level consistent with the requirements of the Union and to submit it in due course to the Council of Administration for consideration; to communicate the budget to the member countries of the Union after approval by the Council of Administration and to execute it;
- 2.5 to execute the specific activities requested by the bodies of the Union and those assigned to him by the Acts;
- 2.6 to take action to achieve the objectives set by the bodies of the Union, within the framework of the established policy and the funds available;
- 2.7 to submit suggestions and proposals to the Council of Administration or to the Postal Operations Council;

- 2.8 to prepare, for the Postal Operations Council and on the basis of directives issued by the latter, the draft Strategic Plan to be submitted to Congress and the draft annual revision;
- 2.9 to ensure the representation of the Union;
- 2.10 to act as an intermediary in relations between:
- the UPU and the Restricted Unions;
  - the UPU and the United Nations;
  - the UPU and the international organizations whose activities are of interest to the Union;
  - the UPU and the international organizations or the associations or enterprises that the bodies of the Union wish to consult or associate with their work;
- 2.11 to assume the duties of Secretary-General of the bodies of the Union and supervise in this capacity and taking into account the special provisions of these General Regulations, in particular:
- the preparation and organization of the work of the Union's bodies;
  - the preparation, production and distribution of documents, reports and minutes;
  - the functioning of the secretariat at meetings of the Union's bodies;
- 2.12 to attend the meetings of the bodies of the Union and take part in the discussions without the right to vote, with the possibility of being represented.

#### Article 111

##### Duties of the Deputy Director-General

- 1 The Deputy Director-General shall assist the Director-General and shall be responsible to him.
- 2 If the Director-General is absent or prevented from discharging his duties, the Deputy Director-General shall exercise his functions. The same shall apply in the case of a vacancy in the post of Director-General as mentioned in article 109, paragraph 3.

#### Article 112

##### Secretariat of the Union's bodies

The secretariat of the Union's bodies shall be provided by the International Bureau under the responsibility of the Director-General. It shall send all the documents published on the occasion of each session to the postal administrations of the members of the body, to the postal administrations of countries which, while not members of the body, cooperate in the studies undertaken, to the Restricted Unions and to postal administrations of other member countries which ask for them.

#### Article 113

##### List of member countries

The International Bureau shall prepare and keep up to date the list of member countries of the Union showing therein their contribution class, their geographical group and their position with respect to the Acts of the Union.

#### Article 114

Information. Opinions. Requests for interpretation and amendment of the Acts. Inquiries. Role in the settlement of accounts

1 The International Bureau shall be at all times at the disposal of the Council of Administration, the Postal Operations Council and postal administrations for the purpose of supplying them with any necessary information on questions relating to the service.

2 In particular it shall collect, collate, publish and distribute all kinds of information of interest to the international postal service, give an opinion, at the request of the parties involved, on questions in dispute, act on requests for interpretation and amendment of the Acts of the Union and, in general, carry out such studies and editorial or documentary work as are assigned to it by those Acts or as may be referred to it in the interest of the Union.

3 It shall also conduct inquiries requested by **postal** administrations to obtain the views of other postal administrations on a particular question. The result of an inquiry shall not have the status of a vote and shall not be formally binding.

4 It **may** act as a clearing house in the settlement of accounts of all kinds relating to the postal **service**.

#### Article 115

Technical cooperation

The International Bureau shall develop postal technical assistance in all its forms within the framework of international technical cooperation.

#### Article 116

Forms supplied by the International Bureau

The International Bureau shall be responsible for arranging the manufacture of international reply coupons and for supplying them, at cost, to postal administrations ordering them.

#### Article 117

Acts of Restricted Unions and Special Agreements

1 Two copies of the Acts of Restricted Unions and of Special Agreements concluded under article 8 of the Constitution shall be sent to the International Bureau by the offices of such Unions, or failing that, by one of the contracting parties.

2 The International Bureau shall see that the Acts of Restricted Unions and Special Agreements do not include conditions less favourable to the public than those which are provided for in the Acts of the Union and shall inform postal administrations of the existence of such Unions and Agreements. The International Bureau shall notify the Council of Administration of any irregularity discovered through applying this provision.

#### Article 118

Union periodical

The International Bureau shall publish, with the aid of the documents made available to it, a periodical in Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish.

## Article 119

### Annual report on the work of the Union

The International Bureau shall make an annual report on the work of the Union, which shall be sent, after approval by the Council of Administration, to postal administrations, the Restricted Unions and the United Nations.

## Chapter III

### Procedure for the submission and consideration of proposals

## Article 120

### Procedure for submitting proposals to Congress

1 Subject to the exceptions provided for in paragraphs 2 and 5, the following procedure shall govern the submission of proposals of all kinds to Congress by postal administrations of member countries:

- a proposals which reach the International Bureau at least six months before the date fixed for Congress shall be accepted;
- b no drafting proposal shall be accepted during the period of six months preceding the date fixed for Congress;
- c proposals of substance which reach the International Bureau in the interval between six and four months before the date fixed for Congress shall not be accepted unless they are supported by at least two **postal** administrations;
- d proposals of substance which reach the International Bureau in the interval between four and two months preceding the date fixed for Congress shall not be accepted unless they are supported by at least eight **postal** administrations; proposals which arrive after that time shall no longer be accepted;
- e declarations of support shall reach the International Bureau within the same period as the proposals to which they refer.

2 Proposals concerning the Constitution or the General Regulations shall reach the International Bureau not later than six months before the opening of Congress; any received after that date but before the opening of Congress shall not be considered unless Congress so decides by a majority of two thirds of the countries represented at Congress and unless the conditions laid down in paragraph 1 are fulfilled.

3 Every proposal must, as a rule, have only one aim and contain only the changes justified by that aim.

4 Drafting proposals shall be headed "Drafting proposal" by the **postal** administrations which submit them and shall be published by the International Bureau under a number followed by the letter R. Proposals which do not bear this indication but which, in the opinion of the International Bureau, deal only with drafting points shall be published with an appropriate annotation; the International Bureau shall draw up a list of these proposals for Congress.

5 The procedure prescribed in paragraphs 1 and 4 shall not apply either to proposals concerning the Rules of Procedure of Congresses or to amendments to proposals already made.

#### Article 121

##### Procedure for submitting proposals between Congresses

1 To be eligible for consideration every proposal concerning the Convention or the Agreements submitted by a postal administration between Congresses shall be supported by at least two other **postal** administrations. Such proposals shall lapse if the International Bureau does not receive, at the same time, the necessary number of declarations of support.

2 These proposals shall be sent to other postal administrations through the intermediary of the International Bureau.

3 Proposals concerning **the Regulations** shall not require support but shall not be considered by the Postal Operations Council unless the latter agrees to the urgent necessity.

#### Article 122

##### Consideration of proposals between Congresses

1 Every proposal concerning the Convention, the Agreements and their Final Protocols shall be subject to the following procedure: a period of two months shall be allowed to postal administrations of member countries for consideration of the proposal notified by an International Bureau circular and for forwarding their observations, if any, to the Bureau. Amendments shall not be admissible. The replies shall be collected by the International Bureau and communicated to postal administrations with an invitation to vote for or against the proposal. Those which have not sent in their vote within a period of two months shall be considered as abstaining. The aforementioned periods shall be reckoned from the dates of the International Bureau circulars.

2 Proposals for amending **the Regulations** shall be dealt with by the Postal Operations Council.

3 If the proposal relates to an Agreement or its Final Protocol, only the postal administrations of member countries which are parties to that Agreement may take part in the procedure described in paragraph 1.

#### Article 123

##### Notification of decisions adopted between Congresses

1 Amendments made to the Convention, the Agreements and the Final Protocols to those Acts shall be sanctioned by notification thereof to the Governments of member countries by the Director-General of the International Bureau.

2 Amendments made to **the Regulations** and their Final Protocols by the Postal Operations Council shall be communicated to postal administrations by the International Bureau. The same shall apply to the interpretations referred to in article 64.3.2 of the Convention and in the corresponding provisions of the Agreements.

#### Article 124

##### Entry into force of **the Regulations** and of the other decisions adopted between Congresses

1 **The Regulations** shall come into force on the same date and shall have the same duration as the Acts laid down by Congress.

2 Subject to paragraph 1, decisions on amending the Acts of the Union which are adopted between Congresses shall not take effect until at least three months after their notification.

## Chapter IV

### Finance

#### Article 125

#### Fixing and regulation of the expenditure of the Union

1 Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 to 6, the annual expenditure relating to the activities of bodies of the Union may not exceed the following sums for **2000** and subsequent years:

**36 680 816** Swiss francs for **2000**;

**37 000 000** Swiss francs for **the years 2001 to 2004**.

The basic limit for **2004** shall also apply to the following years in case the Congress scheduled for **2004** is postponed.

2 The expenditure relating to the convening of the next Congress (travelling expenses of the secretariat, transport charges, cost of installing simultaneous interpretation equipment, cost of reproducing documents during the Congress, etc) shall not exceed the limit of **2 948 000** Swiss francs.

3 The Council of Administration shall be authorized to exceed the limits laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 to take account of increases in salary scales, pension contributions or allowances, including post adjustments, approved by the United Nations for application to its staff working in Geneva.

4 The Council of Administration shall also be authorized to adjust, each year, the amount of expenditure other than that relating to staff on the basis of the Swiss consumer price index.

5 Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the Council of Administration, or in case of extreme urgency, the Director-General, may authorize the prescribed limits to be exceeded to meet the cost of major and unforeseen repairs to the International Bureau building, provided however that the amount of the increase does not exceed **125 000** Swiss francs per annum.

6 If the credits authorized in paragraphs 1 and 2 prove inadequate to ensure the smooth running of the Union, these limits may only be exceeded with the approval of the majority of the member countries of the Union. Any consultation shall include a complete description of the facts justifying such a request.

7 Countries which accede to the Union or are admitted to the status of members of the Union as well as those which leave the Union shall pay their contributions for the whole of the year during which their admission or withdrawal becomes effective.

8 Member countries shall pay their contributions to the Union's annual expenditure in advance on the basis of the budget laid down by the Council of Administration. These contributions shall be paid not later than the first day of the financial year to which the budget refers. After that date, the sums due shall be chargeable with interest in favour of the Union at the rate of 3 percent per annum for the first six months and of 6 percent per annum from the seventh month.

9 Where the arrears of mandatory contributions, not including interest, owed to the Union by a member country are equal to or more than the amount of the contributions of that member country for the preceding two financial years, such member country may irrevocably assign to the Union all or part of the credits owed it by other member countries, in accordance with the arrangements laid down by the Council of Administration. The

conditions of this assignment of credit shall be determined by agreement reached between the member country, its debtors/creditors and the Union.

**10** A member country which, for legal or other reasons, cannot make such assignment shall undertake to conclude a schedule for the amortization of its arrears.

**11** Other than in exceptional circumstances, recovery of arrears of mandatory contributions owed to the Union may not extend over more than ten years.

**12** In exceptional circumstances, the Council of Administration may release a member country from all or part of the interest owed if that country has paid the full capital amount of its debts in arrears.

**13** A member country may also be released, within the framework of an amortization schedule approved by the Council of Administration for its accounts in arrears, from all or part of the interest accumulated or to accrue; such release shall, however, be subject to the full and punctual execution of the amortization schedule within an agreed period of ten years at most.

**14** To cover shortfalls in Union financing, a Reserve Fund shall be established the amount of which shall be fixed by the Council of Administration. This Fund shall be maintained primarily from budget surpluses. It may also be used to balance the budget or to reduce the amount of member countries' contributions.

**15** As regards temporary financing shortfalls, the Government of the Swiss Confederation shall make the necessary short-term advances, on conditions which are to be fixed by mutual agreement. That Government shall supervise, without charge, book-keeping and accounting of the International Bureau within the limits of the credits fixed by Congress.

#### **Article 126**

##### **Automatic sanctions**

**1** Any member country unable to make the assignment provided for in paragraph 9 of article 125 and which does not agree to submit to an amortization schedule proposed by the International Bureau in accordance with article 125, paragraph 10, or which does not comply with such a schedule shall automatically lose its right to vote at Congress and at meetings of the Council of Administration and the Postal Operations Council and shall no longer be eligible for membership of these two Councils.

**2** Automatic sanctions shall be lifted as a matter of course and with immediate effect as soon as the member country concerned has paid its arrears of mandatory contributions owed to the Union, in capital and interest, or has agreed to submit to a schedule for the amortization of the arrears.

#### **Article 127**

##### **Contribution classes**

**1** Member countries shall contribute to defraying Union expenses according to the contribution class to which they belong. These classes shall be the following:

class of 50 units;  
class of 40 units;  
class of 35 units;  
class of 25 units;  
class of 20 units;  
class of 15 units;  
class of 10 units;

class of 5 units;  
 class of 3 units;  
 class of 1 unit;  
 class of 0.5 unit, reserved for the least advanced countries as listed by the United Nations and for other countries designated by the Council of Administration.

2 Notwithstanding the contribution classes listed in paragraph 1, any member country may elect to contribute more than 50 units.

3 Member countries shall be included in one of the above-mentioned contribution classes upon their admission or accession to the Union in accordance with the procedure laid down in article 21, paragraph 4, of the Constitution.

4 Member countries may subsequently change contribution class on condition that this change is communicated to the International Bureau **at least two months** before the opening of Congress. This notification, which shall be brought to the attention of Congress, shall take effect on the date of the entry into force of the financial provisions drawn up by Congress. **Member countries that have not made known their wish to change contribution class within the required time shall remain in the class to which they belonged up to that time.**

5 Member countries may not insist on being lowered more than one class at a time.

6 Nevertheless, in exceptional circumstances such as natural disasters necessitating international aid programmes, the Council of Administration may authorize a **temporary** reduction in contribution class **once between two Congresses** when so requested by a member country if the said member establishes that it can no longer maintain its contribution at the class originally chosen. **In the same circumstances, the Council of Administration may also authorize a temporary reduction for the non-least developed countries already in the class of 1 unit by placing them in the class of 0.5 unit.**

7 The temporary reduction in contribution class in application of paragraph 6 may be authorized by the Council of Administration for a maximum period of two years or up to the next Congress, whichever is earlier. On expiry of the specified period, the country concerned shall automatically revert to its original contribution class.

8 Notwithstanding paragraphs 4 and 5, changes to a higher class shall not be subject to any restriction.

#### Article 128

##### Payment for supplies from the International Bureau

Supplies provided by the International Bureau to postal administrations against payment shall be paid for in the shortest possible time and at the latest within six months from the first day of the month following that in which the account is sent by the Bureau. After that period the sums due shall be chargeable with interest in favour of the Union at the rate of 5 percent per annum reckoned from the date of expiry of that period.



## Chapter V

### Arbitration

#### Article 129

##### Arbitration procedure

1 If a dispute has to be settled by arbitration, each of the postal administrations party to the case shall select a postal administration of a member country not directly involved in the dispute. When several **postal** administrations make common cause, they shall count only as a single administration for the purposes of this provision.

2 If one of the **postal** administrations party to the case does not act on a proposal for arbitration within a period of six months, the International Bureau, if so requested, shall itself call upon the defaulting **postal** administration to appoint an arbitrator or shall itself appoint one ex officio.

3 The parties to the case may agree to appoint a single arbitrator which may be the International Bureau.

4 The decision of the arbitrators shall be taken by a majority of votes.

5 In the event of a tie the arbitrators shall select another postal administration, not involved in the dispute either, to settle the matter. Should they fail to agree on the choice, this **postal** administration shall be appointed by the International Bureau from among **postal** administrations not proposed by the arbitrators.

6 If the dispute concerns one of the Agreements, the arbitrators may be appointed only from among the **postal** administrations that are parties to that Agreement.

## Chapter VI

### Final provisions

#### Article 130

##### Conditions for approval of proposals concerning the General Regulations

To become effective, proposals submitted to Congress relating to these General Regulations shall be approved by a majority of the member countries represented at Congress. At least two thirds of the member countries of the Union shall be present at the time of voting.

#### Article 131

##### Proposals concerning the Agreements with the United Nations

The conditions of approval referred to in article 130 shall apply equally to proposals designed to amend the Agreements concluded between the Universal Postal Union and the United Nations, in so far as those Agreements do not lay down conditions for the amendment of the provisions they contain.

Article **132**

Entry into force and duration of the General Regulations

These General Regulations shall come into force on **1 January 2001** and shall remain in operation until the entry into force of the Acts of the next Congress.

In witness whereof the plenipotentiaries of the Governments of the member countries have signed these General Regulations in a single original which shall be deposited with the Director-General of the International Bureau. A copy thereof shall be delivered to each party by the Government of the country in which Congress is held.

Done at **Beijing, 15 September 1999.**

## Declarations made on signature of the Acts

### I

#### *On behalf of the Argentine Republic:*

"Argentina reiterates the reservation made on ratification of the Constitution of the Universal Postal Union signed in Vienna, Austria, on 10 July 1964, by which the Argentine Government expressly stated that article 23 of the Constitution neither referred to nor included the Islas Malvinas, South Georgia, the South Sandwich Islands or Argentine Antarctica. The Argentine Republic therefore reaffirms its sovereignty over those territories which form an integral part of its national territory. It also recalls that the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolutions 2065 (XX), 3160 (XXVIII), 31/49, 37/9, 38/12, 39/6, 40/21, 41/40, 42/19 and 43/25, in which the existence of a dispute about sovereignty is recognized and in which the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland are requested to enter into negotiations with a view to settling the dispute and finding a peaceful and final solution to the problems outstanding between the two countries, including all questions concerning the future of the Islas Malvinas, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

"Similarly, the Argentine Republic points out that the provision contained in article RE 1301 of the Detailed Regulations of the Universal Postal Convention on the circulation of postage stamps valid in the country of origin will not be considered obligatory for the Republic where any such postage stamps distort Argentina's geographic and legal reality, without prejudice to the application of paragraph 15 of the joint Argentine-British Declaration of 1 July 1971 on communications and movement between Argentina's continental territory and the Islas Malvinas, approved by exchange of letters between the two Governments on 5 August 1971."

(Congrès-Doc 86)

### II

#### *On behalf of the Islamic Republic of Iran:*

"The Islamic Republic of Iran reserves the right to use the term "charge on overdue payments" instead of "interest" in all UPU Acts and Regulations each time the question arises of payment of an additional charge for non-compliance with a payment deadline, in view of the fact that the practice of interest is contrary to the Islamic religion."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 1)

### III

#### *On behalf of Australia:*

"Australia will apply the Acts and Regulations adopted by this Congress in full compliance with its rights and obligations under the World Trade Organization Agreement, and in particular the General Agreement on Trade in Services."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 2)

### IV

#### *On behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:*

"The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has no doubt as to United Kingdom sovereignty over the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands and the British Antarctic Territory. In this context attention is drawn to article IV of the Antarctic Treaty to which both the United Kingdom and Argentina are parties.

"The United Kingdom Government therefore does not accept the declaration of the Argentine Republic claiming to contest United Kingdom sovereignty over the above-mentioned territories, nor does it accept the declaration of the Argentine Republic concerning article RE 1301 of the Seoul Convention (now article RE 305 of the recast Universal Postal Convention).

"As regards other matters mentioned in the declaration of the Argentine Republic, the position of the United Kingdom Government is reserved."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 3)

### V

#### *On behalf of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, and Norway:*

"The delegations of Iceland, the Principality of Liechtenstein, and Norway declare that their countries will apply the Acts adopted by this Congress in accordance with their obligations pursuant to the agreement establishing the European Economic Area."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 4)

### VI

#### *On behalf of New Zealand:*

"New Zealand will apply the Acts and regulations adopted by this Congress insofar as they are consistent with its other international obligations, in particular, the General Agreement on Trade in Services."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 5)

## VII

*On behalf of the United States of America:*

"The United States of America supports the terminal dues system as adopted by the Beijing Congress, acknowledging it as a significant but incomplete measure that moves the system toward a sound economic basis for compensating postal administrations. It is the policy of the government of the United States of America to pursue vigorously further terminal dues reform, which will maintain a viable, efficient and universal international mail service, provide proper compensation to postal administrations for the delivery costs they incur, and review the need for article 40 restrictions. Further, the United States of America anticipates that such a system should be adopted no later than the year 2005, and substantially earlier for exchanges of mail between industrialized countries.

"The United States of America urges the Universal Postal Union to collaborate with the World Customs Organization on development of principles and standards for non-discriminatory customs clearance for both public and private operators. These principles and standards should respect the needs of both public and private operators to move goods expeditiously and without undue impedance and the needs of customs administrations to maintain border controls required to protect the public interest. The United States of America is further of the view that nothing in the Acts of the Union precludes member countries from establishing customs clearance procedures for private operators that are comparable to the procedures for public postal operators."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 6)

## VIII

*On behalf of the Republic of Austria, Belgium, the Kingdom of Denmark, the Republic of Finland, the French Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Channel Islands and Isle of Man, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and Sweden:*

"The delegations of the member countries of the European Union declare that their countries will apply the Acts adopted by this Congress in accordance with their obligations pursuant to the Treaty establishing the European Union and the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) of the World Trade Organization."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 7)

## IX

*On behalf of Viet Nam:*

"Viet Nam reserves the right of its Government to take the necessary measures to protect its interests in the event that certain members do not comply with the articles of the UPU Acts or issue a declaration that may be detrimental to the postal services or the sovereignty of its nation."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 8)

X

*On behalf of the Republic of Turkey:*

"Basing itself on the fact that the island of Cyprus has two peoples, the Greek and the Turkish communities, the Republic of Turkey declares that the Greek Cypriot administration has no legal authority to represent Cyprus as a whole, and still less the Turkish Cypriot people.

"Consequently, the Republic of Turkey does not recognize the representation of the whole island by the Greek Cypriot postal administration at the 22nd UPU Congress in Beijing and asks for the rights of the postal administration of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus to be safeguarded."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 9)

XI

*On behalf of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:*

"The Delegation of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia is signing, with submitting of this document for signing, the Final Acts of the 22nd Congress of the UPU, held in Beijing from 23 August to 15 September 1999 in conformity with the full power entrusted to the delegation, by the Credentials, signed by the Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia Mr Ljubco Georgievski, and submitted to the Secretariat of the Congress."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 10)

XII

*On behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic:*

"The postal administration of the Syrian Arab Republic declares that its signature of the Acts does not imply an obligation to perform or accept any transaction with the Israeli postal administration."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 11)

XIII

*On behalf of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, the State of Bahrain, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Iraq, the State of Kuwait, the Lebanese Republic, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and the Republic of Yemen:*

"The above-mentioned delegations,

"Considering  
the fourth Geneva Convention (1949) relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,

"Recalling  
that Zionism exhibits all the characteristics of imperialism owing to the fact that it is a constant source of conflict and of war with the (adjacent) countries of the Middle East,

"Noting

that, by its basic philosophy, Zionism practises an avowed expansionism because it is occupying territories recognized de facto and de jure as belonging to free and independent countries which are members of the international community,

"Aware

that the Palestinian people are suffering the horrors of the conditions of occupation which are imposed on them and that, as a consequence, their defence is a just cause as it is designed to restore their human and social rights and their right to self-determination and to construct their right to self-determination and to construct their own independent State on the territory of Palestine,

"Considering

that Israel is the spearhead of this philosophy of imperialism, expansionism and racism,

"Confirm

their declaration No IX made at the 1964 Vienna Congress, their declaration No III made at the 1969 Tokyo Congress, their declaration No III made at the 1974 Lausanne Congress, their declaration No V made at the 1979 Rio de Janeiro Congress, their declaration No XXVII made at the 1984 Hamburg Congress, their declaration No III made at the 1989 Washington Congress and their declaration No IV made at the 1994 Seoul Congress,

"And reaffirm

that their signature of all the Acts of the Universal Postal Union (1999 Beijing Congress) as well as any subsequent ratification of those Acts by their respective Governments are not valid vis-à-vis the member inscribed under the name of Israel and in no way imply its recognition."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 12)

XIV

*On behalf of Israel:*

"The delegation of Israel to the 22nd Congress of the Universal Postal Union rejects unreservedly and in their entirety, all declarations or reservations made by certain member countries of the Union at the Union's 15th Congress (Vienna 1964), 16th Congress (Tokyo 1969), 17th Congress (Lausanne 1974), 18th Congress (Rio de Janeiro 1979), 19th Congress (Hamburg 1984), 20th Congress (Washington 1989), 21st Congress (Seoul 1994) and 22nd Congress (Beijing 1999), purporting to disregard Israel's rights of membership in the UPU, as incompatible with the status of the State of Israel as a member of the UN and the UPU. Further, these declarations were made with the intention of not applying the provisions of the Acts of the UPU, and therefore contravene the letter and the spirit of the Constitution, Convention and Agreements. The delegation of Israel accordingly considers these declarations and reservations as illegal and null and void."

(Congrès-Doc 86.Add 13)